

Message Text

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63

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

USIA-06 /027 W

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R 122050Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9372

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PASS COMMERCE MEPD/JASPER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, MX

SUBJECT: LAS TRUCHAS STEEL TASK FORCE

REF: STATE 186199; MEXICO 6348; PLANTY/JASPER TELCON

8/7/75

1. IN ASTOUNDING ABOUT FACE, LAS TRUCHAS DIRECTOR ARMANDO ORIVE INFORMED EMBOFF DURING AUG 6 MEETING THAT TASK FORCE VISIT CANCELLED. ORIVE SAID HE REGRETTED RENEGING ON COMMITMENT BUT IBRD RULES PROHIBITED UNILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH PRE-QUALIFIED COMPANIES PRIOR TO BIDDERS CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR SEPT 17. HE INDICATED LAS TRUCHAS DISPOSED MEET INDIVIDUALLY WITH COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES IN DIFFERENT FRAMEWORK BUT EVEN THEN IN DEPTH SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC MODULES FOR SECOND STAGE PRECLUDED. ORIVE EMPHASIZED CANCELLATION TASK FORCE SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BE INTERPRETED DISADVANTAGEOUS TO COMPETITION U.S. SUPPLIERS FOR STAGE TWO PROJECTS.

2. COMMENT: GIVEN EARLIER LAS TRUCHAS ENTHUSIASTIC EMBRACE TASK FORCE CONCEPT, TURN AROUND PROBABLY REFLECTS SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS. CURRENT GOM LINE SOMEWHAT INCONSISTENT WITH HIGHLY VISIBLE U.S. BUSINESS DELEGATION REPRESENTING SOME FAMED MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS. OUR FEELING NOW IS THAT LAS TRUCHAS WOULD

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LIKE U.S. PARTICIPATION ON SECOND STAGE BUT WANTS TO KEEP

THAT PARTICIPATION VERY LOW KEY AT PRESENT TIME. BIDS
WILL NOT BE OPENED UNTIL MAY 1976 WHEN DIRECTIONS OF NEXT
PRESIDENT MAY BE MORE DEFINED AND ENVIRONMENT MAY BE MORE
CONDUCTIVE TO U.S. SUPPLIERS. APPARENTLY, IBRD RULES
CONVENIENT EXCUSE, IF SUCH RULES ACTUALLY EXIST. WOULD
APPRECIATE COMMENTS.
BRANDIN

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